

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the method comprising:
  - establishing a second communication path that is independent of a first communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network; and
  - transferring information that would be normally transferred over said first communication path between said at least two endpoints via said established second communication path.
2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising provisioning said established second communication path for handling communication functions.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said provisioned communication functions further comprises at least one of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and addressing management.
4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising temporarily storing said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established second communication path.
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said first communication path is a physical communication path.
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein said second communication path is a logical communication path.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein said second communication path is at least one of a circuit switched connection and a packet switched connection.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least two endpoints comprises a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least two endpoints is at least one of media processing systems, media peripherals, personal computers, third (3<sup>rd</sup>) party media providers, third (3<sup>rd</sup>) party storage vendors and channel information servers.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein said second and said first communication path comprises at least one of a wired and a wireless communication link.

11. A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the at least one code section being executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform steps comprising:

establishing a second communication path that is independent of a first communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network; and

transferring information that would normally be transferred over said first communication path between said at least two endpoints via said established second communication path.

12. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, further comprising code for provisioning said established second communication path for handling communication functions.

13. The machine-readable storage according to claim 13, wherein said provisioned communication functions further comprises at least one of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and addressing management.

14. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, further comprising code for temporarily storing said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established second communication path.

15. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said first communication path is a physical communication path.

16. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said second communication path is a logical communication path.

17. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said second communication path is at least one of a circuit switched connection and a packet switched connection.

18. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said at least two endpoints comprises a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

19. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said at least two endpoints is at least one of media processing systems, media peripherals, personal computers, third (3<sup>rd</sup>) party media providers, third (3<sup>rd</sup>) party storage vendors and channel information servers.

20. The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said second and said first communication path comprises at least one of a wired and a wireless communication link.

21. A system for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the system comprising:

at least one processor executing a provisioning protocol that establishes a second communication path that is independent of a first communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network; and

said at least one processor transfers information that would normally be transferred over said first communication path between said at least two endpoints via said established second communication path.

22. The system according to claim 21, said at least one processor provisions said established second communication path for handling communication functions.

23. The system according to claim 21, wherein said provisioned communication functions further comprises at least one of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and addressing management.

24. The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor temporarily stores said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established second communication path.

25. The system according to claim 21, wherein said first communication path is a physical communication path.

26. The system according to claim 21, wherein said second communication path is a logical communication path.

27. The system according to claim 21, wherein said second communication path is at least one of a circuit switched connection and a packet switched connection.

28. The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least two endpoints comprises a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

29. The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least two endpoints is at least one of media processing systems, media peripherals, personal computers, third (3<sup>rd</sup>) party media providers, third (3<sup>rd</sup>) party storage vendors and channel information servers.

30. The system according to claim 21, wherein said second and said first communication path comprises at least one of a wired and a wireless communication link.

31. The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor is at least one of a media processing system processor, a media management system processor, a computer processor, a media exchange software processor and a media peripheral processor.